United Nations A/58/573/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 April 2004
English
Original: Arabic

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 121

Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Fouad **Rajeh** (Saudi Arabia)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 121 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/58/573.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 33rd, 37th and 39th meetings, on 16 and 23 March and 2 April 2004. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/58/SR.33, 37 and 39).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of possible funding arrangements for the capital master plan (A/58/729);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on a request for a subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone (A/58/733);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/7/Add.30).

4. At the 33rd meeting, on 16 March 2004, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions presented orally the report of that Committee on the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan (see A/C.5/58/SR.33).

04-29783 (E) 060404

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.65

5. At its 39th meeting, on 2 April, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Special Court for Sierra Leone" (A/C.5/58/L.65), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Australia.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.65 without a vote (see para. 10).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Japan.

B. Draft decision A/C.5/58/L.61

8. Also at its 39th meeting, on 2 April, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Capital master plan" (A/C.5/58/L.61), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Belgium.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/58/L.61 without a vote (see para. 11).

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

10. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Special Court for Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone[1] submitted in response to the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in its report[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 16,700,000 United States dollars to supplement the financial resources of the Special Court for Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2004, on the understanding that any regular budget funds appropriated for the Court would be refunded to the United Nations at the time of liquidation of the Court should sufficient voluntary contributions be received;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in concert with the Management Committee, to redouble efforts to raise voluntary contributions to support the work of the Court, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on progress made;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute voluntary funds in support of the Court and to honour existing pledges;

5. *Notes* that the Court is expected to complete its work by 31 December 2005;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the Special Court for Sierra Leone to adopt a completion strategy, and also requests the Secretary-General to inform the Security Council and the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session about this matter;

7. *Invites* the Management Committee to review the structure of the Court with a view to minimizing the cost of completing the Court's work, without adversely affecting the implementation of the legal agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone.

---

[1] A/58/733.

[2] S/2004/182 and S/2004/183.

[3] A/58/7/Add.30.

11. The Fifth Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Capital master plan

The General Assembly:

(a) Decides to postpone consideration of the issue of financing the capital master plan to the second part of its resumed fifty-eighth session, and requests the Secretary-General to update section IV, entitled "Sources of funding, financing options and commercial borrowing", of his report on the capital master plan dated 28 June 2000[1] and to update his report on the status of possible funding arrangements for the capital master plan;[2]

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly during the second part of its resumed fifty-eighth session all the outstanding reports requested in its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002.

---

[1] A/55/117 and Add.1.

[2] A/58/729.